

88

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/798,525

Examiner

Hwei-Siu C. Payer

Applicant(s)

PENNEL ET AL.

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment and supplemental amendment filed on 6-6-2006 and 5-18-2006, respectively.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,5 and 10-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Hwei-Siu Payer
Primary Examiner

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

The abstract has been rewritten as follows:

A cutting member for a shaving razor includes an elongated metal blade having a cutting edge, a blade end, a tapered portion near the blade end and a uniform thickness portion extending from the blade end to the tapered portion, and an elongated bent metal support that has a platform portion, a bent portion and a base portion extending downward from the bent portion. The platform portion extends forward from the bent portion to a front end. The platform portion includes an attachment area that is spaced from the front end and the bent portion, and a flat portion that includes and extends beyond the attachment area. The uniform thickness portion of the blade is supported on the platform portion and secured thereto at the attachment area, the tapered portion extending forward beyond the front end of the platform portion.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Celia H. Leber on August 14, 2006.

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 3, 5 and 10-17 are allowable over the prior art of record. The claimed elongated bent metal support being between 0.004" and 0.009" thick and the bent portion having a radius of curvature of less than 0.1mm are not taught or made obvious by the prior art of record or any combination.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0208907 to Brown, Jr. et al. is the only reference of record that mentions the supporting surface 214 of a core insert 200 having a radius of curvature "R" (see Fig.22A), adjacent the curved portion of a blade support 34, being in the range of 0.005 to 0.007 inch (i.e. 0.127 to 0.178 mm, see paragraph [0068]). However, the '907 reference is silent about and does not explicitly mention the range for the radius of curvature of the bent portion of the blade support 34 being the claimed range of less than 0.1 mm.

With respect to the claimed thickness (0.004 to 0.009 inch i.e. 0.1016 to 0.22 mm) of the elongated bent metal support, none of the prior of record mentions such. U.S. Patent No. 4,200,876 to Gooding teaches (see column 1, line 65 to column 2, line 23 and Figs.1-2) a blade having a thickness of 0.1 mm welded to a metal-stamped blade carrier 11 that has about the same thickness (i.e. 0.1 mm) as that of the blade (see Fig.2). However, if one were to modify the claimed invention with the teaching of Gooding, the blade support would have the same thickness as that of the blade (i.e.

0.1mm). A blade support thickness of 0.1 mm is outside the claimed range (i.e. 0.004 to 0.009 inch or 0.1016 to 0.22 mm).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Point of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hwei-Siu C. Payer whose telephone number is 571-272-4511. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for official communications and 571-273-4511 for proposed amendments.

H Payer
August 14, 2006



Hwei-Siu Payer
Primary Examiner